

2015-J1105

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Mac Wellman upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of an Honorary Award by the Brooklyn Arts Exchange Arts and Artists in Progress

WHEREAS, It is the practice of this Legislative Body to honor and recognize those individuals whose commitment and creative talents contribute to the cultural enrichment of their communities and of the entire State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Mac Wellman upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of an Honorary Award, to be celebrated at the 14th Annual Brooklyn Arts Exchange Arts and Artists in Progress Awards Ceremony, on Saturday, March 28, 2015, at the Brooklyn Arts Exchange Building, Park Slope, Brooklyn; and

WHEREAS, The Brooklyn Arts Exchange (BAX) Arts and Artists in Progress awards recognize individuals in the arts who have revealed and transformed their creative works; by instigating change, they have deepened the definition of their field and paved the way for others; and

WHEREAS, These distinguished awards are given to some of the most talented, generous, creative, and inventive persons in New York City dance, theater or performance; and

WHEREAS, An American playwright, author, and poet, Mac Wellman holds the distinguished position of Professor of Play Writing at Brooklyn College; and

WHEREAS, Mac Wellman is best known for his experimental work in the theater which rebels against theatrical conventions, often abandoning such traditional elements as plot and character altogether; his plays frequently resemble a moving collage of events; and

WHEREAS, In the fall of 2006, Mac Wellman and composer, David Lang,

presented THE DIFFICULTY OF CROSSING A FIELD at Montclair State University in New Jersey; two years later, he produced 1965 UU for performer Paul Lazar, and directed by Stephen Mellor at the Chocolate Factory in New York; and

WHEREAS, In October of 2011, Mac Wellman's 3 2'S; OR AFAR was performed at Dixon Place in New York; in 2013, he presented HORRACKS (AND TOUTATIS TOO) WOO WORLD WU at Emerson College in Boston; and WHEREAS, Mac Wellman's most recent work, MUAZZEZ, with Steve Mellor, was showcased at PS 122's COIL Festival, at the Chocolate Factory in 2014; and

WHEREAS, In 2006, Mac Wellman released his third novel, Q'S Q, and two years later, he published a volume of stories, A CHRONICLE OF THE MADNESS OF SMALL WORLDS, as well as a new collection of plays entitled THE DIFFICULTY OF CROSSING A FIELD; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Mac Wellman printed several books of poetry, including MINIATURE in 2002, STRANGE ELEGIES in 2006, SPLIT THE STICK in 2012, and LEFT GLOVE in 2011; and

WHEREAS, Mac Wellman was the recipient of numerous awards and accolades for his work; he received three Obie Awards, and his 2011 novel, LINDA PERDIDO won the FC2 Catherine Doctorow Prize for innovative fiction; he also accepted Fellowships from NEA, Guggenheim, and Foundation of Contemporary Arts; and

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to those individuals who add strength, vigor and inspiration to the cultural diversity and quality of life in the communities of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, It is most fitting that we take time to celebrate the arts of our Nation, to honor our playwrights and authors, and to express our

appreciation to everyone who patronizes the arts; and as we celebrate the arts, we celebrate and give thanks to our American freedom, the only atmosphere in which artists can truly create and in which art is truly

the expression of the soul; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Mac Wellman upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of an Honorary Award by the Brooklyn Arts Exchange Arts and Artists in Progress; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Mac Wellman.